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SENIOR WHIP

March 31, 2023

Chair Tom Cole
Ranking Member Mike Quigley
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member Quigley:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$5,972,840 to the City of Indianapolis for the Sherman Park Redevelopment project in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is City of Indianapolis, located at 200 East Washington Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

The funding would be used to build site enabling infrastructure and revitalize a brownfield, which will catalyze job creation, and facilitate planned activities including workforce training for formerly incarcerated returning citizens and affordable housing accessible to returning citizens and individuals who have experienced homelessness. It will also remediate and remove significant environmental barriers to redevelopment and spur economic development activities in the federally designated Indy East Promise Zone (IEPZ).

This federal funding will leverage significant local funding to address many purposes, including economic development through redevelopment and revitalization of critical infrastructure in neighborhoods still feeling the impacts of job loss from decades of closed manufacturing facilities. The redevelopment of the Sherman Park site will spur regional economic transformation by creating equitable access to jobs and support economic growth in the IEPZ. At its inception, the IEPZ had a 47% poverty rate and a 24.5% unemployment rate. The redevelopment of the Sherman Park site will result in the creation of a job and training center that is both immediately accessible and attractive to IEPZ residents and returning citizens while also improving quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods.

The Sherman Park site redevelopment will revitalize this community suffering from decades of manufacturing job losses by rebuilding the infrastructure needed to attract job creators who will build opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents.

The initiative is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will transform a vacant brownfield into a bustling center of economic and community activity. Once complete, the project will also spur additional private businesses to come to Sherman Park to access the potential talent pipeline and physical proximity to a trained workforce while removing barriers for additional private actors to invest in the remainder of Sherman Park, thereby multiplying the effects of the initial infrastructure investment.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program which provides annual grants on a formula basis to states, cities, and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. The program is authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended 42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



André Carson
Member of Congress